Mandate Given to Shri K.C. Pant

339. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
DR. MANMOHAN SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission has been appointed negotiator to interact with all interested parties in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, what is the precise mandate given to Shri Pant;

(c) whether Shri Pant visited Jammu and Kashmir recently; and

(d) what has been the outcome of this visit and progress made in this endeavour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) In order to promote a vigorous movement towards establishment of peace and tranquility, Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has been nominated to undertake dialogue with representatives of all walks of life from among the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The agenda for the dialogue is peace and how it may be attained.

(c) and (d) In addition to some meetings in Delhi, Shri K.C. Pant visited Jammu and Kashmir during May 28th to June 2nd, 2001 and held discussions with various individuals and representatives of parties, NGOs, local media, human right bodies, religious heads, etc. for ascertaining their views. His visit evoked a good response.

Negotiations with extremist groups in North-East

340. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to tackle the rest of the different extremist groups other than NSCN(IM) and ULFA operating in Assam and other North-Eastern States;